

Immigration in the



United States of America

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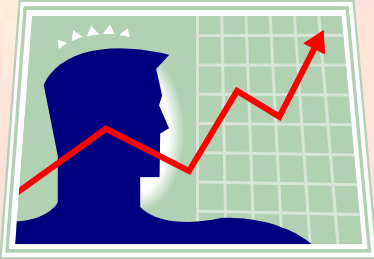


1. Reasons for Immigration
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Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

Emma Larzarus

II. Facts and Immigration Law



1. Facts

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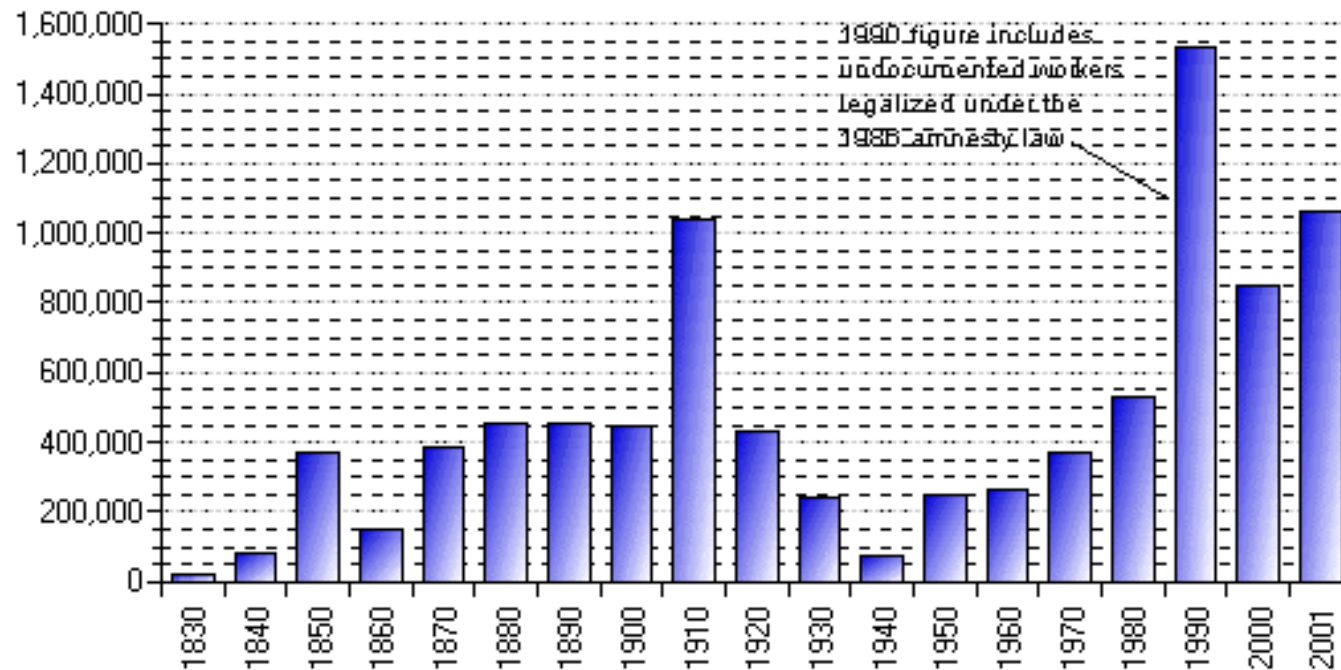


Law about...

1. Facts

Immigration to the United States

Legal immigrants admitted to the United States, fiscal years 1830-2001



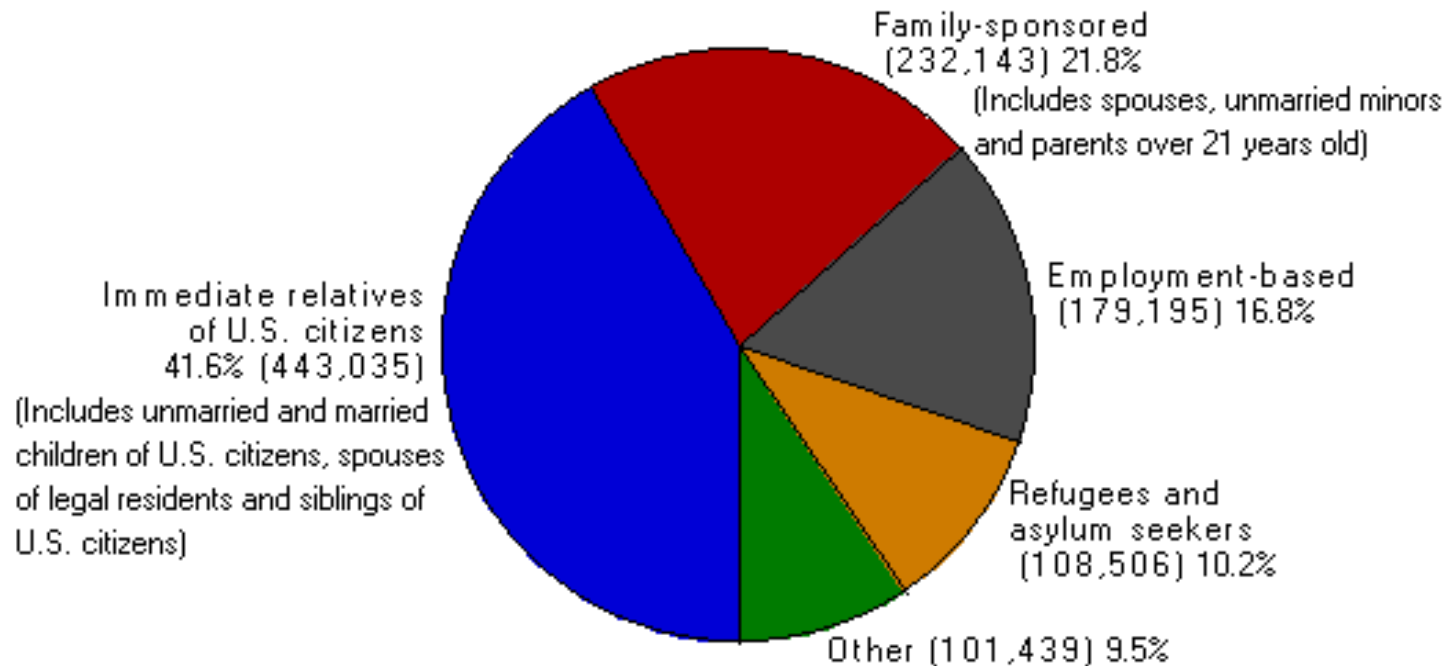
Note: INS estimates that about 275,000 illegal immigrants enter the U.S. each year

Source: "2001 Statistical Yearbook," Immigration and Naturalization Service

1. Facts

Reason for admission

Immigrant admission by major category, fiscal year 2001

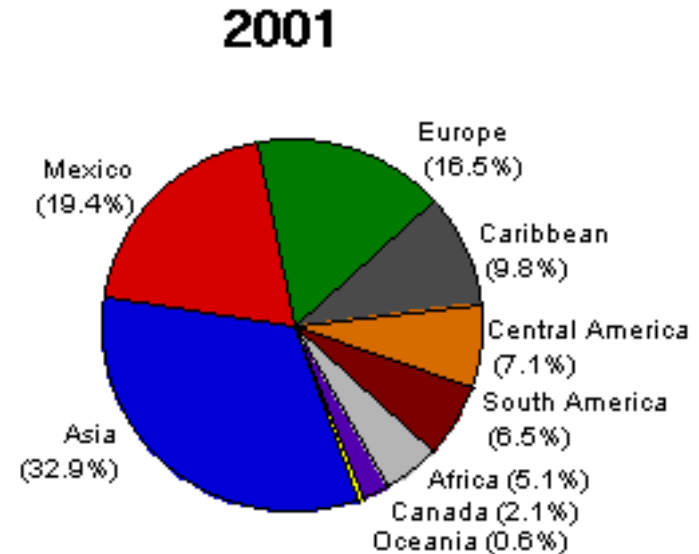
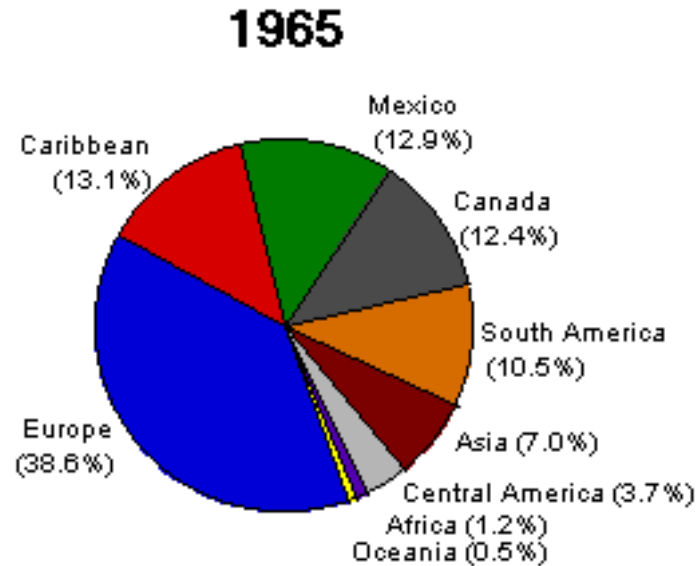


Source: "2001 Statistical Yearbook," Immigration and Naturalization Service

1. Facts

Place of origin of immigrants

Legal immigrants, by region of origin, fiscal years 1965 and 2001



Total number of immigrants admitted in 2001 = 1,064,318

Source: "2001 Statistical Yearbook," Immigration and Naturalization Service

1. Facts

Origin of illegal immigrants

Estimated illegal immigrant population for top 20 countries of origin, October 1996

Country of Origin	Estimated population
All countries	5,000,000
1) Mexico	2,700,000
2) El Salvador	335,000
3) Guatemala	165,000
4) Canada	120,000
5) Haiti	105,000
6) Philippines	95,000
7) Honduras	90,000
8) Dominican Republic	50,000
9) Nicaragua	70,000
10) Poland	70,000

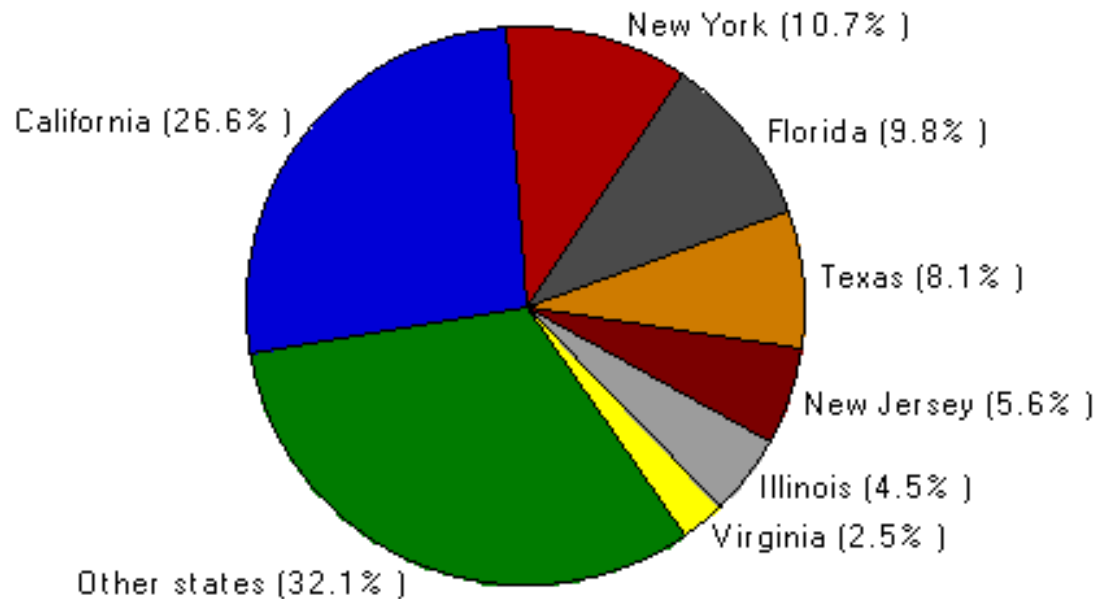
Country of Origin	Estimated population
11. Colombia	65,000
12. Ecuador	55,000
13) Trinidad & Tobago	50,000
14) Jamaica	50,000
15) Pakistan	41,000
16) India	33,000
17) Ireland	30,000
18) Korea	30,000
19) Peru	30,000
20) Portugal	27,000
Other	764,000

Source: "Illegal Alien Resident Population," updated December 2001, Immigration and Naturalization Service

1. Facts

Destination of immigrants

Immigrants admitted to the United States by state of intended residence, fiscal year 2001



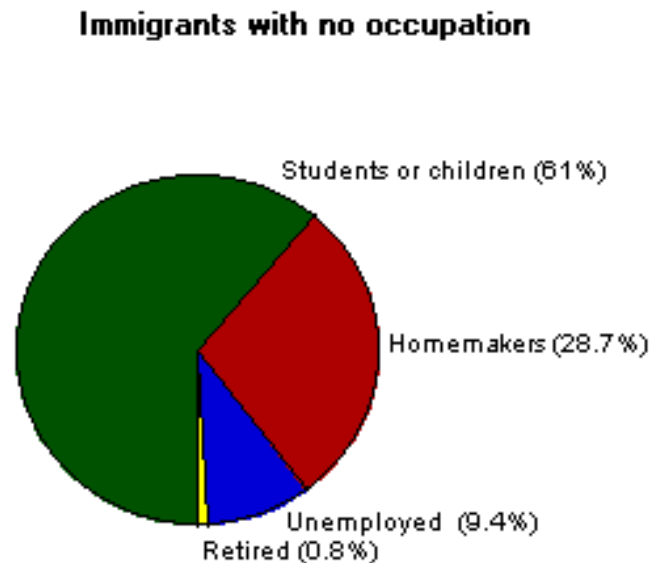
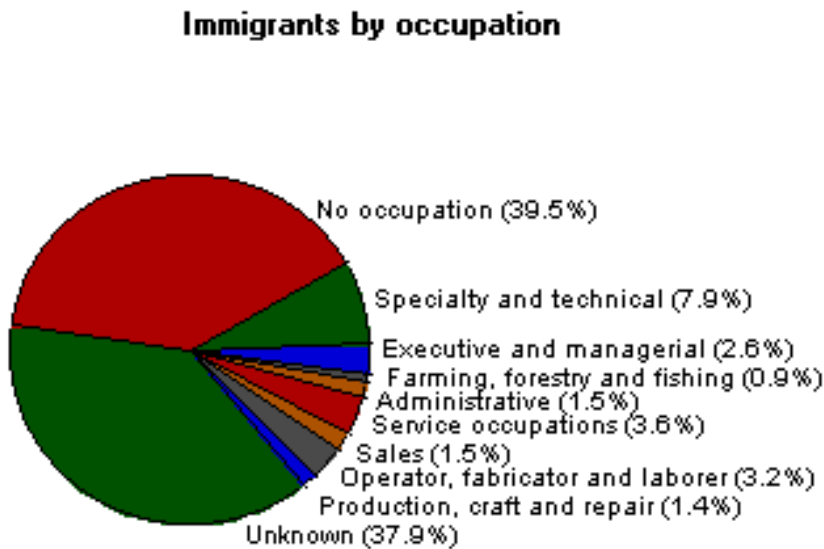
Total number of immigrants admitted in 2001 = 1,064,318

Source: "2001 Statistical Yearbook," Immigration and Naturalization Service

1. Facts

Occupation of immigrants

Legal immigrants admitted by occupation, fiscal year 2001



Total number of immigrants admitted in 2001 = 1,064,318

Source: "2001 Statistical Yearbook," Immigration and Naturalization Service

2. Immigration Law

2.1 Overview

- a long history of immigration laws
- The Immigration and Nationality Act (1952) is the basic immigration law in the U.S.
- Federal law:
 - a) U.S. Constitution
 - b) Federal Statutes => United States Code
 - c) Federal Regulations => Code of Federal Regulations
 - d) Judicial Decisions
- International law: Conventions and Treaties

2.1 Overview

- Federal law determines:

a) who is an alien

b) the conditions by which aliens can become naturalized citizens

c) who may enter, how long they may stay, when they must leave

=> function of immigration law = „gatekeeper“ for the nation's border

- States have limited legislative authority

- Congress has total and complete authority

2.2 Laws Restricting Immigration

1607 - 1830



- 17 th and 18 th centuries: individual colonies had control
- effort to keep out convicts and other undesirables
- after America's Independence: control disappeared
- 1790 – citizenship available after 2 years of residence, finally in 1802 determined of interval of 5 years
- government left rest up to states
- 1600-1800's no efforts to keep out immigrants

2.2 Laws Restricting Immigration

1830 - 1890

- **in 1875 first restriction of immigration**
- **in 1882 government reacted to anti-immigrant feelings
=> further restrictions**

1890 - 1924

- **1892 an act passed by Congress – examination of immigrants and excluding of certain people**
- **1917 enlarged list of people who can be legally excluded**
- **1921 quota which affected many countries**
- **1924 the law was expanded**

2.2 Laws Restricting Immigration

1868 - Present

- several bills to cut legal immigration to the U.S. to 20,000**
 - => parents, adults children, and brothers and sisters of U.S. citizen could no longer immigrate**
 - => spouses and children of permanent residents limited to 10,000 visas per year**

2.3 How to Become a Citizen of the U.S.

People become citizens in two ways:

⇒ most people become citizens at birth

**⇒ everyone else must go through „naturalization“
(the XIV Amendment of the constitution!)**

a) Citizenship at Birth

- any person born in the U.S.**
- any person born in other countries (parents U.S. Citizens)**
- a person born abroad to 1 U.S. Citizen, 1 non-citizen
may or may not be a U.S. citizen**

2.3 How to Become a Citizen of the U.S.

b) Citizenship through Naturalization

Conditions:

- **over 18 years old**
- **permanent resident status for at least five years (*)**
- **physically present in the U.S. for at least 2,5 years ***
- **fluent in spoken and written English**
- **pass a test about U.S. History, U.S. government system**
- **„good moral character“**
- **loyalty to the U.S.**

2.3 How to Become a Citizen of the U.S.

Exeptions!

Some people can get their citizenship without meeting the requirements:

- persons who served with the U.S. Military in active duty service**
- some noncitizen children if one or both of their parents naturalize before the children are 18 years old (citicenship by derivation)**

"So, in the end, is the trouble of immigration worth it? Worth the hatred to come? Worth the pain of discrimination, the fear of new laws which can make life hard for naturalized citizens? Is it worth it? For me, for now...it is!"

Jose Latour

Keywords

immigration

destination

origin

ethnic group

refugees

culture

immigration law

immigration
policies

multicultural

bilingual

visa

discrimination

citizen

resident

illegal

freedom

“Nation of Immigrants”

“American Dream”

“Golden Door”